GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:26
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2016
Shortage of Legal Experts for WTO Disputes
Butta Smt. Renuka

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the availability of legal experts to effectively handle the growing number of complex disputes at World Trade Organisation (WTO) is less than the demand in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any study has been conducted so far in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the legal professionals to deal with the disputes?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) to (d): No Madam. Government of India has been able to make satisfactory submissions and effectively defend its disputes in the World Trade Organization (WTO) through departmental/in-house experts, private legal experts nurtured on international trade law over last few years within the country. Legal Professionals both from the Government Departments as well as the law firms empanelled are provided trainings by domestic as well as international experts through dedicated workshops/seminars, conferences and periodic meetings on relevant legal issues. Accordingly, need for a separate study is not felt at this moment.

****